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13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)

An interdisciplinary research teamwork has been carried out under the DARPA Metamaterials program. Remarkable progress has been made to February 2003 which includes: 1. a new model analysis in exchange-coupled nanocomposite magnets was made which is in good agreement with the experimental data; 2. breakthrough was made in synthesis of hard and soft magnetic nanoparticles as well as their self-assembled nanocomposite; 3. a new solid-state reaction method to fabricate bulk nanomagnets was found; 4. bulk nanocomposite magnets produced by shock-compaction have been successfully fabricated.

14. SUBJECT TERMS

Metamaterials, exchange coupling, nanocomposites, permanent magnets

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Summary

Exchange-coupled nanocomposite magnets have been studied worldwide for more than ten years. However, no breakthrough was made for a decade to enable production of bulk nanocomposite magnets with high energy products. This situation has been changing during the past year and a half since DARPA began investing in this area. We have made remarkable progress in gaining a better understanding of the exchange coupling and in finding novel approaches to the synthesis and processing of the nanocomposites:

Our theoretical modeling has revealed that the accepted condition for exchange-coupling— soft-phase dimension equal or smaller than twice the domain-wall thickness in the hard phase — derived by three groups in Europe, must be amended: the critical soft-phase dimension depends also on the soft phase itself. In experimental investigation, breakthroughs have been made by finding several novel approaches to materials synthesis and processing, including chemical synthesis of nanoparticles and their self-assembly into exchange-coupled nanocomposite magnets, solid-phase-reaction synthesis (eutectoid decomposition) of $L1_0$ phase-based nanocomposite, and dynamic compaction of nanoparticles. More effort in producing nanoparticles and bulk magnets is underway including electrochemical deposition of the hard-phase nanoparticles, anisotropic nanoparticles, extrusion of nanostructured magnets and field induced texture in nanocomposite magnets. These novel approaches show a great potential for mass production of bulk nanocomposite magnets with high energy products.

This project was terminated officially on Feb. 28, 2003 at Louisiana Tech University because the PI moved to University of Texas at Arlington (UTA). The project is continued at UTA.

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Submitted manuscripts:

- K. H. Chen, Z. Q. Jin, J. Li, G. Kennedy, H. Zeng, S.-F. Chen, Z. L. Wang, N. N. Thadhani and J. P. Liu, "Bulk Nanocomposite Magnets Produced by Dynamic Shock Compaction", submitted to *Nature Materials*.
- Vamsi M. Chakka, Z. S. Shan, and J. P. Liu, "Effect of coupling strength on magnetic properties of exchange-coupled spring magnets", submitted to *J. Appl. Phys.*
- J. Zhang, G. Zangari "Electrodeposition of Sm-Co nanoparticles from aqueous solutions" submitted to *Applied Physics Letters*

Oral presentations:

Special Colloquium at Argonne National Lab, by Dr. Shouheng Sun (IBM T. J. Watson Research Center), "Self-Assembling Magnetic Nanomaterials", Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Improving Exchange-Spring Magnets with Interfacial Modification, J. S. Jiang, J. E. Pearson, J. P. Liu and S. D. Bader, Proc. 17th International Workshop on Rare Earth Magnets and Their Applications, Edited by G. C. Hadjipanayis and M. J. Bonder, p. 727-737 (Rinton Press, Princeton, 2002).

Improved Exchange Spring Nanocomposites with Interfacial Modification (Invited), J. S. Jiang, 17th International Workshop on Rare Earth Magnets and Their Applications, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware (August 18-22, 2002).

Magnetic interactions in FePt-based nanoparticle assembly (invited), H. Zeng and Shouheng Sun, Fourth International Conference on Fine Particle Magnetism, Pittsburgh, 2002

Exchange-coupled nanocomposite via self-assembly, H. Zeng, Shouheng Sun, J. Li, Z.L. Wang, and P. Liu, 47th Annual Conference on Magnetism & Magnetic Materials, Tampa, 2002.

Exchange-coupled FePt nanoparticle assembly, Hao Zeng, T. Vedantam, Z.R. Dai, Z.L. Wang, J.P. Liu, and Shouheng Sun, Annual American Physical Society March Meeting, Indianapolis, 2002

How to create self-assembled nanostructures, S. Sun, the 47th Annual Conference on Magnetism and Magnetic Materials, November 11-15, 2002, Tempa, Florida.

Exchange-spring nanocomposites via self-assembly, S. Sun, H. Zeng, J. Li, Z.L. Wang, and P. Liu, DOE CESP annual workshop on nanocomposite magnetic materials, October 20-22, 2002, Stony Brook, New York.

Nd-Co/Sm-Co Exchange-Springs: Correlation between Soft Phase Anisotropy and Exchange Field, J. S. Jiang, J. Pearson, S. D. Bader, Z. J. Guo, J. P. Liu, APS March Meeting, 2003

Magnetic nanocomposite materials-nanoparticle approach (invited) H. Zeng and Shouheng Sun, American Chemical Society NorthEastern Regional Meeting, Saratoga Springs, NY, 2003

Structures of Fe-Pt Magnetic Nanocrystal Self-Assembled Arrays and The Optimization of Magnetic Properties, Jing Li, Zhong Lin Wang, Hao Zeng, Shouheng Sun and J. Ping Liu, Invited presentation in 2003 MRS Spring Meeting, Apr. 21-25, 2003, San Francisco. Symposium P: Self-Assembled Nanostructured Materials, Apr. 25, 2003, 10:30 AM. *P10.6. Speaker: Professor Zhong LinWang.

Synthesis and Characterization of Monodisperse Magnetite & Cobalt Ferrite) Nanoparticles, H. Zeng, S. Sun, C. Black, R. Sandstrom, MRS Spring Meeting, San Francisco, CA, Apr. 21-25, 2003.

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Shock compaction of exchange-coupled nanocomposite magnets,

Z.Q. Jin, K.H. Chen, J. Li, G. Kennedy, H. Zeng, J.P. Liu, Z.L. Wang, N.N. Thadhani, to be presented at the APS Topical Group Meeting on Shock Compression of Condensed Matter, July 20-25, 2003, Portland, OR.

Dynamic shock compaction of nanocrystalline bulk magnetic and thermoelectric materials,

N.N. Thadhani, Invited paper to be presented at THERMEC International Conference, Madrid, Spain, July 7-11, 2003.

Synthesis and assembly of magnetic nanoparticles,

S. Sun, the 77th ACS Colloid and Surface Science Symposium, June 15-18, 2003, Atlanta, GA.

Self-assembled magnetic nanoparticle arrays,

S. Sun, Keynote Speaker, the 5th International Symposium on Magnetic Materials and Applications, SOMMA 2003, December 4-6, 2003, Daejeon, South Korea.

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